

Remarks

The Office Action mailed June 5, 2006 has been reviewed, and these remarks are responsive thereto. Claims 1, 17 and 35 have been amended. Claims 1-9, 17-33 and 35 remain pending in this application and currently stand rejected.

Examiner Interview Summary

Applicants thank Examiner Daftuar for the courtesy of a telephone interview on September 6, 2006, requested by the undersigned to discuss the rejection of the current claims under 35 U.S.C. § 102. During the interview, Applicants highlighted existing claims to the Examiner, possible amendments to the existing claims, and expressed their desire to further prosecution. However, no agreement was made regarding rejected claim patentability.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-9, 17-33 and 35 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,104,999 by Gilles et al. (hereinafter *Gilles*). Claims 1, 17 and 35 have been amended, and Applicants respectfully submit that the amendments overcome this rejection and add no new matter.

Amended Claim 1 recites a system for processing and managing requests for collocation space, the system comprising a workstation, a computer network, a web server, an application server, and a database, a method for assisting a user in completing an application for collocation space comprising, *inter alia*, obtaining user information regarding a location and physical characteristics of the collocation space and equipment to be installed therein, the collocation space comprising a physical space allocated for equipment belonging to a plurality of communications entities, wherein the user information about the location and physical characteristics comprises at least one of the following: physical space square footage

information, physical space type and existing physical space information, and calculating a total width using the user information.

Amended Claim 17 recites a system comprising a workstation, a computer network, a web server, an application server, and a database, a method for processing and responding to requests for collocation space comprising, *inter alia*, obtaining from a user information regarding a location and physical characteristics of a collocation space and equipment to be installed therein, the collocation space comprising a physical space allocated for equipment belonging to a plurality of communications entities, wherein the user information about the location and physical characteristics comprises at least one of the following: physical space square footage information, physical space type and existing physical space information, and calculating heat dissipation and equipment quantity using the user information.

Amended Claim 35 recites a system comprising a workstation, a computer network, a web server, an application server, and a database, a method for processing and responding to requests for collocation space comprising, *inter alia*, obtaining from a user information regarding a location and physical characteristics of a collocation space and equipment to be installed therein, the collocation space comprising a physical space allocated for equipment belonging to a plurality of communications entities, wherein the user information about the location and physical characteristics comprises at least one of the following: physical space square footage information, physical space type and existing physical space information, and calculating a total width using the user information.

Gilles discloses automated electronic processing of orders for telecommunications products and services. (*See Gilles* column 2, lines 62-63.) *Gilles* discloses a pre-ordering exchange between a telecommunications provider and a telecommunications reseller. (*See Gilles*

column 7, lines 44-47.) When reseller 50 receives an order or inquiry from a customer, reseller 50 initiates an electronic request for customer service record information and transmits the request to wholesaler 22 using either the purchaser order transaction set (850). (*See Gilles* column 7, lines 51-56.) If the customer service record request has appropriate authorization, the corresponding customer service record is forwarded to the reseller using the customer service record response transaction set (864). (*See Gilles* column 7, lines 56-60.) Purchase order transaction set (850) may be used to provide for customary and established business and industry practice relative to the placement of purchase orders for telecommunications goods and services. (*See Gilles* column 5, lines 11-23.)

In contrast with the claimed invention, *Gilles* fails to disclose, obtaining user information regarding a location and physical characteristics of the collocation space and equipment to be installed therein, the collocation space comprising a physical space allocated for equipment belonging to a plurality of communications entities, wherein the user information about the location and physical characteristics comprises at least one of the following: physical space square footage information, physical space type and existing physical space information, as recited in Claim 1. *Gilles* also fails to disclose, calculating a total width using the user information, as recited in Claim 1. *Gilles* does not utilize information related to physical space square footage information, physical space type and existing physical space information because *Gilles* is directed to processing orders related to product and services sold by a reseller. (*See Gilles* column 2 line 61 through column 3 line 8.) Accordingly, the purchaser order transaction set (850) of *Gilles* is merely used to obtain information related to telephone number inquiries, reservations, reservation cancellations, and reservation confirmations; due date inquiries, reservations, reservation cancellations, and reservation confirmations; customer service record

requests; and service requests. (*See Gilles* column 5, lines 11-23.) In addition, *Gilles* fails to mention using a calculation of total width because *Gilles* directed to automated purchase ordering. Accordingly, independent Claim 1 patentably distinguishes the present invention over the cited prior art, and Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of this rejection of Claim 1. Dependent Claims 2-9 are also allowable at least for the reasons described above regarding independent Claim 1, and by virtue of their dependency upon independent Claim 1. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of this rejection of dependent Claims 2-9.

Claim 35 includes limitations similar to the limitations mentioned above with respect to Claim 1, and is patentably distinguishable from the cited prior art for the reasons mentioned above with respect to Claim 1. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of this rejection of Claim 35.

Gilles fails to disclose, obtaining from a user information regarding a location and physical characteristics of a collocation space and equipment to be installed therein, the collocation space comprising a physical space allocated for equipment belonging to a plurality of communications entities, wherein the user information about the location and physical characteristics comprises at least one of the following: physical space square footage information, physical space type and existing physical space information, as recited in Claim 17. As mentioned above with respect to Claim 1, *Gilles* fails to contemplate such a limitation. In addition, *Gilles* fails to disclose calculating heat dissipation and equipment quantity using the user information. Because *Gilles* is directed to purchase order information, *Gilles* fails to address any heat dissipation problems addressed by the invention of Claim 17. Accordingly, independent Claim 17 patentably distinguishes the present invention over the cited prior art, and

Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of this rejection of Claim 17. Dependent Claims 18-33 are also allowable at least for the reasons described above regarding independent Claim 17, and by virtue of their dependency upon independent Claim 17. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of this rejection of dependent Claims 18-33.

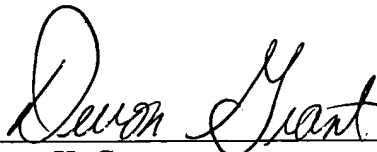
Conclusion

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned please contact Applicants' undersigned attorney at 404.954.5040.

Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725.

Respectfully submitted,
MERCHANT & GOULD

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